PERIPHERAL UNIT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, METHOD AND PROGRAM RECORDING MEDIUM THEREFOR

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10   The peripheral unit management system, the peripheral unit management method and the program recording medium therefore for managing a plurality of peripheral units by a peripheral unit manager via a network wherein each of the plurality of peripheral units has a serial number and a unique ID number to distinguish

15   it from other peripheral units and is connected to the network for communication between the manager and the peripheral units, the system can reuse data having been accumulated in one of the peripheral units in which a LAN card has been replaced, thereby management of articles of

20   consumption and maintenance of the peripheral unit can be properly accomplished.

        In a management system 1 that manages a plurality of peripheral units 2-1 to 2-N via a local area network LAN 3, each peripheral unit having a serial number and a

25   unique ID number, the system 1 communicates with each peripheral unit and reads the serial number and the ID number thereof, determines whether or not any one of the peripheral units has been replaced, when it is determined that a peripheral unit has been replaced the system

30   obtains new data of the peripheral unit, when it is determined that a peripheral unit has not been replaced even though a LAN card of the peripheral unit has been replaced, the system reuses data having been accumulated in the peripheral unit.